(b) The Chief Controller of Imports and Exports has been requested by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to consider regulating such imports.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have prepared Draft Rules incorporating suitable provisions in this regard.

Water pollution by industries

942. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the complaints received on pollution of water from industries producing H-acid in Udaipur area of Rajasthan and if so, action taken thereon;

(b) whether Government are also aware that despite provision of undertaking surveys in ICAR Coordinator Projects on Pesticides, very little work has been done on water pollution from pesticides;

(c) whether Central Water Pollution Control Board has also totally failed in this respect and if so, details of corrective action taken/proposed to monitor water supplies in river|ponds and underground specially in States|Districts like Punjab where pesticides are used in large quantities; and

(d) whether all available data on pesticides in water will be put together by the Central Water Pollution Board and published at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Two units, namely, M/s. Silver Chemicals and M/s. Jyoti Chemicals in Udaipur are engaged in the manufacture of H-Acid. The steps taken to control the pollution from these units include the following:—

(i) Consent has been refused in the case of M|s. Silver Chemicals by the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, on the ground of violation of the consent conditions.

(ii) The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board has filed a case against M|s. Silver Chemicals before the Chief Judicial Magistrate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act.

The Board has also requested the State Government to issue directions under Section of 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for closure of the plant.

(iii) M|s. Jyoti Chemicals made an application for consent to manufacture H. Acid on February 9, 1989. The industry had changed the process of manufacture from ferric alum to H. Acid without prior approval of the Board and the consent application is to be rejected.

(b) No work has been done so far on water pollution from pesticides under the ICAR Coordinated Projects on pesticides.

(c) Water quality of the Ganga is being monitored for 7 types of pesticides at 27 locations under the Ganga Action Plan through the Industrial Toxicological Research Centre. The Central Pollution Control Board monitors the effluent from pesticide factories.

(d) Does not arise.

Ratio of foreign money to Indian currency in the form of debt

943. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the ratio of foreign money to the Indian currency in the form of debt, aid and investment in 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The ratio of the country's external debt outstanding to the total currency stock with the public at the end of years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 amounted to 22.7 per cent, 27.5 per cent and 29.9 per cent respectively. Similarly, ratio of external

aid to currency stock with the public for these years work out to 1.7 per cent, 2.0 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively.

Aggregate foreign investment in India as at the end of March, 1980, the latest year for which data on outstanding level of foreign investment are available, stood at Rs. 2219 crores. However, more recent data available ralate to only approvals issued to Non-Resident Indians (NRI's) for investment in Indian companies under different schemes. Value of approvals for such investment by NRIs constituted 0.2 per cent in 1985-86, 0.3 per cent in 1986-87 and 0.1 per cent in 1987-88 of the stock of currency with the public.

Loans to State Governments for implementation of Central Schemes

944. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans taken by the State Governments for implementation of Central schemes during the last three years;

(b) the amounts allocated to the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) out of these loans; and

(c) whether the Central Government have monitored the implementation of these programmes to see that the funds allocated have been utilised for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) The total amounts of loans advanced to the various State Governments for implementation of Central and Centrally sponsored Plan Schemes during the years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 are Rs. 167.00 crores (Actuals), Rs. 252.00 crores (Revised Estimates) and Rs. 203.00 crores (Revised Estimates) respectively.

(b) Assistance to State Governments for implementation of NREP/RLEGP is provided by way of grants-in-aid. As such, the question of allocating loans for these programmes does not arise.

(c) The monitoring of implementation of the NREP|RLEGP is basically the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government, however, monitors the implementation of the programme through monthly, quarterly and annual reports which provide information in regard to physical and financial performace assets, created and sectoral expenditure incurred. A system of Area Officers for different States to see the implementation of the works in the field has also been introduced.

Quantum of basic exemption available for an assessee under Gift Tax Act

945. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any transitional previous year under Gift Tax Act for the assessment year 1989-90 in view of the recent amendment of the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987; and

(b) what is the quantum of basic exemption under Gift Tax Act available for an assessee who had a transitional previous year having 21 months for Assessment year 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. There can be a transitional previous year under the Gift Tax Act for the assessment year 1989-90.

(b) The quantum of basic exemption under the Gift Tax Act for an assessee who had a transitional previous year of 21 months for the assessment year 1989-90 remains the same i.e. Rs. 20,000/-.